

KATIE HOBBS GOVERNOR **EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

The Honorable Warren Petersen President of the Senate 1700 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007

The Honorable Ben Toma Speaker of the House 1700 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007

President Petersen and Speaker Toma,

As you know, I have vetoed the partisan budget package sent to my desk this week. Now that we have each presented our vision for the state budget, it's time to come together to address the nearly two billion dollar gulf between them. A quick glance at the bills moving through the legislature shows that the Republican Caucuses intend to spend much more than the amount appropriated in the Republican budget package. From hundreds of millions of dollars in meritorious infrastructure projects to hundreds of millions of dollars to pay for a tax cut for landlords, it's clear that those who are advocating for a "skinny" budget want to spend significant amounts of money outside of the budget process.

Because of this, it's more important than ever that we begin the process of budget negotiations. OSPB will reach out to each of your offices and those of your Democratic counterparts to schedule a meeting to discuss a regular, ongoing process to negotiate a bipartisan budget before the end of the fiscal year. The best way to ensure a budget is finalized before July 1st is to begin negotiations now. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely.

Katie Hobbs Governor

State of Arizona

Cc:

Senator Raquel Terán Representative Andrés Cano Senator John Kavanagh Representative David Livingston